WE CLAIM:

1. A compound represented by formula (I):

a compound represented by formula (II):

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or a mixture of at least one compound represented by formula (I) with at least one compound represented by formula (II), wherein M is hydrogen, an alkali atom or an ammonium group; R¹ is hydrogen,

10 a $-(CH_2)_mSO_3M$ group or a MO_3S group; R^2 is an alkyl-, alkenyl- or alkynyl- group having 6 to 25 carbon atoms; and m is an integer between 1 and 5.

- 2. Compound according to claim 1, wherein R^1 is a $-(CH_2)_mSO_3M$ group and n is 12 to 24.
 - 3. Compound according to claim 1, wherein R^1 is a $-(CH_2)_mSO_3M$ group and n is 12 to 16.
- 20 4. A process using at least one compound represented by formula (I):

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at least one compound represented by formula (II):

$$M \xrightarrow{O \setminus \bigcup_{S} \\ O \setminus \bigcup_{N} \\ N} R^{1}$$

or a mixture of at least one compound represented by said formula (I) and at least one compound represented by said formula (II), wherein M is hydrogen, an alkali atom or an ammonium group; R^1 is

hydrogen, a $-(CH_2)_mSO_3M$ group or a MO_3S group; R^2 is an alkyl-, alkenyl- or alkynyl- group having 6 to 25 carbon atoms; and m is an integer between 1 and 5, as a surfactant.

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